

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 AID-20 DRC-01 /125 W

----- 050409

O R 061357Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0447

INFO AMEMBASSY BANJUL

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, PU

SUBJ: GUINEA-BISSAU INDEPENDENCE CEREMONIES

REF:DAKAR 4967

1. FONOFF CHIEF CABINET CUNHA REGO AND SPINOLA'S DIPLOMATIC AIDE NUNES BARATA ADVISE THAT INFORMATION RECEIVED LAST NIGHT FROM PAIGC INDICATES THAT THERE WILL BE NO RPT NO CEREMONY ON SEPTEMBER 10 IN GUINEA-BISSAU, BILATERAL OR OTHERWISE, IN BISSAU, MEDINA DO BOE, OR ELSEWHERE. THEY CONFIRM REFTEL REPORT THAT THERE WILL BE SOME FORM OF CEREMONY SOMEWHERE IN GUINEA-BISSAU ON SEPTEMBER 24 TO MARK FIRST ANNIVERSARY OF PROCLAMATION OF GUINEA-BISSAU INDEPENDENCE.

2. FONOFF HAS JUST RECEIVED TELEX FROM BISSAU CONFIRMING THAT PAIGC REPS WHO WILL TRAVEL TO LISBON FOR SEPTEMBER 10 CEREMONIES WILL BE FOREIGN MINISTER VICTOR MARIA AND NEGOTIATOR MAJOR PEDRO PIRES. DECISION ON FORM OF CEREMONY IN LISBON MUST AWAIT
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SPINOLA DECISIONS. HOWEVER, SINCE PAIGC REPRESENTATION

WILL BE BELOW CHIEF OF STATE LEVEL, SPINOLA WILL NOT BE INVOLVED IN CEREMONY WHICH INCLUDES PAIGC REPS. INSTEAD, FONOFF IS RECOMMENDING TO SPINOLA THAT HE SIGN SOME FORM OF DOCUMENT, TO SATISFY CONSTITUTIONAL/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS, AS UNILATERAL ACT OF TRANSFERRAL OF POWERS, AND MAKE RADIO-TELEVISION ADDRESS TO NATION. TRANSFER OF POWERS INSTRUMENT SIGNED BY SPINOLA WILL THEN BE PRESENTED BY FONMIN SOARES TO FONMIN MARIA AT CEREMONY IN PALACIO DAS NECESSIDADES (FOREIGN MINISTRY). FONOFF ASSUMES THAT IF THERE TO BE ANY FOREIGN REPRESENTATION PRESENT, IT WILL TAKE FORM OF AMBASSADORS ACCREDITED TO PORTUGAL.

3. IN ANY EVENT, SEPTEMBER 10 WILL BE EFFECTIVE DATE FOR WHAT GOP OFFICIALS CALL "G-B INDEPENDENCE," THOUGH THEY ADMIT THAT IT MIGHT BE MORE PRUDENT AND TACTFUL TO REFER TO THE DAY FORMALLY AS "TRANSFER OF POWERS DAY," SINCE PAIGC PRESUMABLY WISHES TO CONSIDER THAT REPUBLIC OF G-B HAS BEEN INDEPENDENT SINCE SEPTEMBER 24, 1973.
SCOTT

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